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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 13, 1977

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the American people, I send to you and to the people of Afghanistan heartfelt thanks for your country's unique Bicentennial gift which was presented through the courtesy of Ambassador Malikyar to Vice President Rockefeller. The representation in lapis lazuli, alabaster and marble of our cherished Statue of Liberty is a wonderful tribute to the friendship between our peoples as well as a dramatic example of the artistic talents of your countrymen.

Mr. President, in the special year of our Nation's Bicentennial, all Americans are deeply honored by this gesture of friendship among freedom-loving peoples which this beautiful gift represents. As we begin our third century of freedom and as we look forward to strengthening the bonds between our countries, this magnificent work of art will serve to inspire our mutual efforts.

On behalf of all Americans, I reiterate to you and to the Government and people of Afghanistan our deep appreciation for your contribution to our Nation's 200th Anniversary.

With very best wishes,



Mr. Mohammady Daoud
Head of State and Prime Minister
of the Republic of Afghanistan
Kabul